

REMARKS

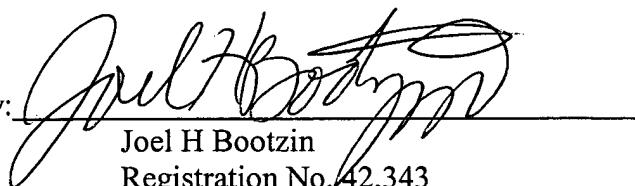
Responsive to the election requirement, applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-9 for prosecution, with traverse.

In particular, Applicants submit that at least with respect to the Group II claims 10-21, such a large degree of overlap would exist in an Examiner's search directed to the testing apparatus of claims 1-9 and the test stand of claims 10-21 that they would most efficiently be included in the same application. Both groups fall under the same classification (class 73), both groups are directed to the same figures (FIGs. 1-3), and both groups recite similar features though of different scope. For instance, claim 1 recites a pretensioner portion while claim 10 recites a piston in a cylinder, which is one possible example of a pretensioner portion. Thus, as just one example, the search for the pretensioner portion also covers a search for the piston and cylinder. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request that at least the restriction between Groups I and II (claims 1-9 and 10-21) be withdrawn.

An action on the merits is awaited.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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